



State Senator

November 2004

VALDE GARCIA

Serving the 22nd District

Shiawassee-Livingston-southern Ingham counties

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BREAKING NEWS FROM SENATOR GARCIA'S OFFICE- A Legislative Bulletin for Residents of the 22nd District

****BREAKING NEWS****

Consumers now able to use national rebate offers on prescriptions

Considered a violation of the Michigan Health Care False Claim Act, pharmacists were not allowed to accept manufacturer's discount coupons for prescription drugs or medical equipment. Thanks to two bills, House Bill 5947 and 5970, the act was revised and now all Michigan residents will be able to enjoy savings for their medical supplies and medication.

When Michigan citizens tried to use their nationally distributed rebate coupons, they were told that it was illegal to receive such discounts. Disappointed with the rejection of their coupons, numerous people contacted their state legislators and eventually the Attorney General to resolve the interstate discrepancy. Many senior citizens claimed that they needed to use these discount programs to simply afford their prescriptions. Being denied access to the programs often meant that these seniors would have to go without a much needed medication. Now that the bills have passed, all consumers will have the opportunity to redeem money-saving coupons and participate in prescription drug rebate programs.

Should you have questions or concerns regarding this legislation or any other bills that are being considered by the Michigan Legislature, please do not hesitate to contact Senator Garcia's office toll free at (800) 516-0026.